

APPENDIX 11

Core Habitat Analysis

The following tables and maps display the analysis of core habitat for the four alternatives:

Table 1 Core Habitat Analysis

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas in planning area (acres)	228,000	234,000	231,000	225,000
Core areas on Public Land (acres)	106,000	112,000	108,000	104,000
Percent of planning area in core areas	41	42	41	40
Percent of Public Land in core areas	73	77	74	71
Percent of planning area impacted by traffic	59	58	59	60
Percent of Public Lands impacted by traffic	27	23	26	29
Mean core area size of 10 largest core areas	16,300	17,700	15,900	15,600
Number of core areas greater than 1,000 acres	46	42	47	46

[Map 9](#) Core Areas under the Current Use Alternative

[Map 10](#) Core Areas under the Proposed Action

[Map 11](#) Core Areas under the Low Use Alternative

[Map 12](#) Core Areas under the High Use Alternative

Table 2. Percentage of Core Habitat on Public Lands by Habitat Type

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Alpine Tundra	26	27	23	26
Aspen	25	27	25	24
Grassland	23	25	23	22
Riparian	39	42	40	36
Mixed Conifer	32	33	32	32
Mountain Shrub	41	43	41	41
Pinyon/Juniper	60	61	60	59
Ponderosa Pine	48	52	48	47
Spruce-Fir	52	51	52	52

Table 3 Percentage of Habitat Type on Public Lands Impacted by Traffic

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Alpine Tundra	5	5	7	5
Aspen	7	7	7	7
Grassland	7	7	7	7
Riparian	10	10	10	13
Mixed Conifer	14	14	14	14
Mountain Shrub	9	8	9	9
Pinyon/Juniper	33	30	31	34
Ponderosa Pine	13	11	13	15
Spruce-Fir	16	15	16	17

Table 4-1 Core Habitat Available for Bighorn Sheep (all types of habitat: winter range, production areas, summer ranges, etc. have been combined in this analysis).

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	34,530	34,740	34,640	33,990
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	4,440	4,230	4,330	4,990
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.4

Table 4-2 Core Habitat Available for Elk (all types of habitat: winter range, production areas, summer ranges, etc. have been combined in this analysis).

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	66,760	67,920	66,250	65,690
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	17,800	16,650	18,300	18,880
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	12.2	11.4	12.5	12.9

Table 4-3 Core Habitat Available for Mule Deer (type of habitat: severe winter range only).

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, severe winter range, Public Land (acres)	48,290	53,110	50,270	46,050
Traffic impacted core areas, severe winter range, Public Land (acres)	27,840	23,020	25,870	30,090
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land, severe winter range (percent)	19.0	15.7	17.7	20.6

Table 4-4 Core Habitat Available for Black Bear (all types of habitat: winter range, production areas, summer ranges, etc. have been combined in this analysis).

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	67,820	68,800	67,130	67,830
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	17,510	16,530	18,200	17,500
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	12.0	11.3	12.5	12.0

Table 4-5 Core Habitat Available for Mountain Lion (all types of habitat: winter range, production areas, summer ranges, etc. have been combined in this analysis).

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	106,410	111,900	108,315	104,115
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	39,775	34,280	37,870	42,075
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	27.2	23.4	25.9	28.8

Table 4-6 Core Habitat Available for Raptors (all types of habitat: winter range, production areas, summer ranges, etc. have been combined in this analysis).

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	9,520	9,655	9,470	9,270
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	2,340	2,210	2,395	2,595
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.8

Table 4-7 Core Habitat Available for Merriam's Turkey (all types of habitat: winter range, production areas, summer ranges, etc. have been combined in this analysis).

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	86,670	91,590	88,790	84,360
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	23,900	18,900	21,790	26,215
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	16.4	13.0	14.9	17.9

Table 4-8 Core Habitat Available for Birds (all types of habitat: winter range, production areas, summer ranges, etc. have been combined in this analysis).

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	106,410	111,900	108,315	104,115
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	39,775	34,280	37,870	42,075
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	27.2	23.4	25.9	28.8

Table 5-1. Core Habitat Available for T&E Species - Mexican Spotted Owl (Critical Habitat)

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	24,440	24,630	24,390	24,440
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	2,750	2,560	2,790	2,750
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9

Table 5-2. Core Habitat Available for T&E Species - Mexican Spotted Owl (Protected Activity Centers - PACs)

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	4,090	4,130	4,090	4,090
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	804	770	804	804
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

Table 5-3. Core Habitat Available for T&E Species - Bald Eagle

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	350	490	410	410
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	1,860	1,720	1,800	1,800
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2

Table 5-4. Core Habitat Available for T&E Species - Gunnison's Prairie Dog

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use
Core areas, Public Land (acres)	0	0	0	0
Traffic impacted core areas, Public Land (acres)	141	141	141	141
Traffic impacted habitat on Public Land (percent)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Table 6. Data for Element Occurrence Records

Table 6-1 Gold Belt: Acres of Public Land Core Habitat

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use	CU/PA Difference *
American Peregrine Falcon	20.6	20.6	20.6	20.6	0.0 ¹
Birdbill Day-Flower	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	0.0
Brandegge Wild Buckwheat	2.0	69.7	51.1	46.8	49.1 ²
Cloche Ancylicid	4.0	13.4	13.4	13.4	9.4 ³
Common Hog-Nosed Skunk	156.8	369.3	236.7	236.7	80.0 ⁴
Coyote Willow/Bare Ground	345.3	345.3	345.3	218.5	0.0 ¹
Cross-Line Skipper	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dwarf Milkweed	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Foothills Riparian Woodland	1447.5	1447.5	1447.5	1447.5	0.0
Geyer's Willow-Rocky Mountain Willow/Mesic Forb	379.1	379.1	379.1	379.1	0.0
Golden Blazing Star	547.0	585.1	567.7	563.4	20.7 ⁵
Mesic Oak Thickets	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0 ¹
Mexican Spotted Owl	1472.4	1569.7	1472.4	1472.4	0.0
Montane Grasslands	284.2	284.2	284.2	284.2	0.0
Montane Riparian Forest	2694.6	2739.8	2694.6	2668.5	0.0
Montane Riparian Shrubland	403.1	403.1	403.1	403.1	0.0
Narrowleaf Cottonwood Riparian Forests	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.3	0.0
New Mexico Cliff Fern	1067.3	1067.3	1067.3	1067.3	0.0
Plains Escarpment Prairies (Limestone Breaks)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0
Snow Gooseberry	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	0.0
Townsend's Big-Eared Bat Subspecies	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.5	0.0
Triploid Colorado Checkered Whiptail	140.6	140.6	140.6	140.6	0.0
Twinevine	667.1	667.1	667.1	667.1	0.0
Two-Needle Pinyon/Scribner's Needle Grass	28.3	28.3	28.3	28.3	0.0

* The difference between the Current Use Alternative and the Proposed Action

1 - Proposed Action maintains current habitat

2 - Proposed Action reduces traffic impacts on Brandegge Wild Buck Wheat by an estimated 49 acres

3 - Proposed Action increases undisturbed potential habitat for Cloche Ancylicid by an estimated 9 acres

4 - Proposed Action increases potential common hog nosed skunk habitat in Garden Park ACEC by an estimated 80 acres

5 - Proposed Action improves Golden Blazing Star habitat by 20 acres

Table 6-2: Gold Belt: Acres of Traffic Impacted Public Land Habitat

	Current Use	Low Use	Proposed Action	High Use	CU/PA Difference*
American Peregrine Falcon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Birdbill Day-Flower	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brandegees Wild Buckwheat	271.0500	203.3370	221.9320	226.2090	-49.1
Cloche Ancyloid	191.7710	182.3630	182.3630	182.3630	-9.4
Common Hog-Nosed Skunk	1457.6630	1245.1700	1377.7070	1377.7870	-80.0
Coyote Willow/Bare Ground	22.0050	22.0050	22.0050	148.8430	0.0
Cross-Line Skipper	50.8570	50.8570	50.8570	50.8570	0.0
Dwarf Milkweed	13.2140	11.8790	13.2140	13.2140	0.0
Foothills Riparian Woodland	72.1210	72.1210	72.1210	72.1210	0.0
Geyer's Willow-Rocky Mountain Willow/Mesic Forb	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Golden Blazing Star	588.5150	550.4630	567.8150	572.0760	-20.7
Mesic Oak Thickets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mexican Spotted Owl	127.9350	30.6200	127.9340	127.9340	0.0
Montane Grasslands	168.1000	168.1000	168.1000	168.1000	0.0
Montane Riparian Forest	280.3950	235.1450	280.3950	306.5080	0.0
Montane Riparian Shrubland	430.5110	430.5110	430.5110	430.5110	0.0
Narrowleaf Cottonwood Riparian Forests	234.9150	234.9150	234.9150	234.9150	0.0
New Mexico Cliff Fern	609.8920	609.8920	609.8920	609.8920	0.0
Plains Escarpment Prairies (Limestone Breaks)	30.9120	30.9160	30.9160	30.9160	0.0
Snow Gooseberry	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Townsend's Big-Eared Bat Subspecies	107.6420	107.6420	107.6420	107.6420	0.0
Triploid Colorado Checkered Whiptail	81.2050	81.2050	81.2050	81.2050	0.0
Twinevine	229.8780	229.8730	229.8730	229.8780	0.0
Two-Needle Pinyon/Scribner's Needle Grass	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

* The difference between the Current Use Alternative and the Proposed Action